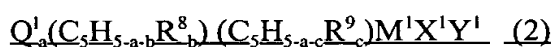


IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A catalyst for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, which comprises:

(A) a transition metal compound represented by any of the following general formulae (2) to (6):

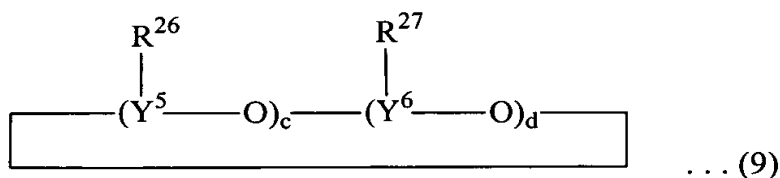
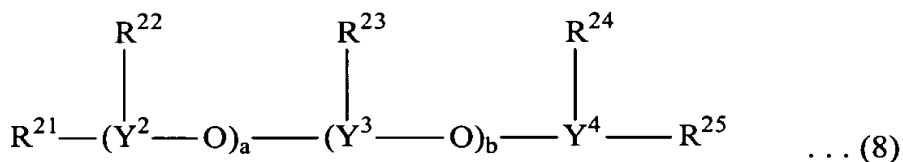


in which Q^1 represents a bonding group that crosslinks the two conjugated five-membered cyclic ligands $(C_5H_{5-a-b}R^8_b)$ and $(C_5H_{5-a-c}R^9_c)$; Q^2 represents a bonding group that crosslinks the conjugated five-membered cyclic ligand $(C_5H_{5-a-d}R^{10}_d)$ and the group Z^1 ; R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} and R^{11} each represent a hydrocarbon group, a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, a silicon-containing hydrocarbon group, a phosphorus-containing hydrocarbon group, a nitrogen-containing hydrocarbon group, or a boron-containing hydrocarbon group; and a plurality of these groups, if any, may be the same or different, and may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; a represents 0, 1 or 2; b, c and d each represent an integer of from 0 to 5 when a = 0, or an integer of from 0 to 4 when a = 1, or an integer of from 0 to 3 when a = 2; e is an integer of from 0 to 5; M^1 represents a transition metal of Groups 4 to 6 of the Periodic Table; M^2 represents a transition metal of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table; L^1 and L^2 each represent a coordination-bonding ligand; X^1 , Y^1 , Z^1 , W^1 and U^1 each represent a

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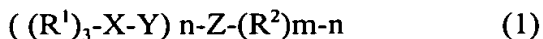
covalent-bonding or ionic-bonding ligand; and L^1 , L^2 , X^1 , Y^1 , Z^1 , W^1 and U^1 may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure.

(B) an oxygen-containing compound represented by any of the following general formulae (8) to (9):



wherein R^{21} to R^{27} each represent an alkyl group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms and may be the same or different, and R^{26} and R^{27} may be the same or different. Y^2 to Y^6 each represent an element of Group 13 of the Periodic Table, Y^2 to Y^4 may be the same or different; and Y^5 and Y^6 may be the same or different, a to d each indicates a number of from 0 to 50, but (a+b) and (c+d) each must be at least 1.

(C) a compound of a general formula (1):



wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryloxy group having

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from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioalkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an amino group, an amido group, or a carboxyl group, R^h's may be the same or different, and R^h's may be optionally bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; X represents an element of Group 14; Y represents an element of Group 16; Z represents a metal element of Groups 2 to 13; R² represents a hydrocarbon group; m is an integer, indicating the valency of the metal element Z; and n is an integer of from 1 to (m-1),

B2 and optionally,

(D) an alkylating agent represented by any of the following general formulae (12) to

(14):

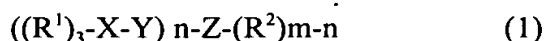


wherein R³¹ and R³² each represent an alkyl group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms; X represents a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom, 0 < m ≤ 3, 0 ≤ n < 3.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn): A catalyst for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, which comprises:

(A) a transition metal compound,

(C) a compound of a general formula (1):



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30

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carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioalkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an amino group, an amido group, or a carboxyl group, R¹'s may be the same or different, and R¹'s may be optionally bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; X represents an element of Group 14; Y represents an element of Group 16; Z represents a metal element of Groups 2 to 13; R² represents a hydrocarbon group; m is an integer, indicating the valency of the metal element Z; and n is an integer of from 1 to (m-1),

B2 and optionally,

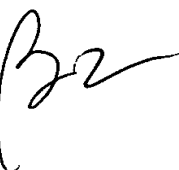
(D) an alkylating agent.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The catalyst as claimed in claim 1 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein, in (C), X is carbon, Y is oxygen and Z is aluminium.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The catalyst as claimed in claim 1 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein the compound (C) is a reaction product of <1> at least one selected from compounds of a general formula, (R¹)₃-C-OR³, R⁴-CO-R⁵ or R⁶-CO-OR⁷, with <2> a compound of a general formula, ~~Z-(R²)_m~~. ~~(In these formulae,~~
Z (R²)_m, wherein R¹, R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ each represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioalkoxy group having from 1 to 30

carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an amino group, an amido group, or a carboxyl group, and R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 may be the same or different, and R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 may be optionally bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; Z represents a metal element of Groups 2 to 13; m is an integer, indicating the valency of the metal element Z; and R^2 represents a hydrocarbon group.[][]]

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): A catalyst for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, which comprises:

 (A) a transition metal compound,

(B) an oxygen-containing compound, and/or a compound capable of reacting with a transition metal compound to form an ionic complex,

(C1) at least one selected from compounds of a general formula, $(R^1)_3-C-OR^3$, R^4-CO-R^5 or $R^6-CO-OR^7$ (In these formulae, R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 each represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioalkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an amino group, an amido group, or a carboxyl group, and R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 may be the same different, and R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 may be optionally bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure.)

(C2) a compound of a general formula, $Z(R^2)_m$. (In this formula; Z represents a metal element of Groups 2 to 13; m is an integer, indicating the valency of the metal element Z; and R^2 represents a hydrocarbon group,

and optionally,

(D) an alkylating agent.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): A catalyst for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, which comprises:

(A) a transition metal compound,

(C1) at least one selected from compounds of a general formula, $(R^1)_3-C-OR^3$, R^4-CO-R^5 or $R^6-CO-OR^7$ (In these formulae, R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 each represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioalkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an amino group, an amido group, or a carboxyl group, and R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 may be the same or different, and R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 maybe optionally bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure.

(C2) a compound of a general formula, $Z(R^2)_m$, wherein Z represents a metal element of Groups 2 to 13; m is a integer, indicating the valency of the metal element Z; and R^2 represents a hydrocarbon group,


and optionally,

(D) an alkylating agent.

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Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The catalyst as claimed in claim 1 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein at least one of three R's is an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The catalyst as claimed in claim 1 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes wherein three R's are all aromatic hydrocarbon groups each, having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms.

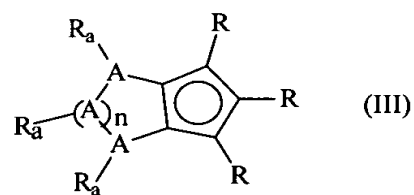
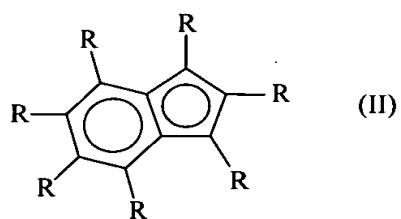
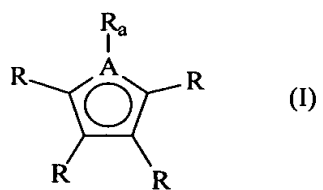
 Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The catalyst as claimed in claim 1 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein three R's are all phenyl groups.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The catalyst as claimed in claim 1 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein R² is an alkyl group having at least 2 carbon atoms.

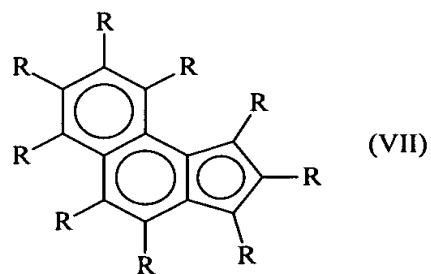
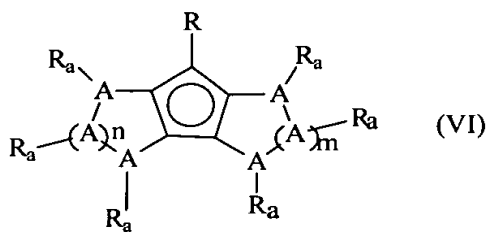
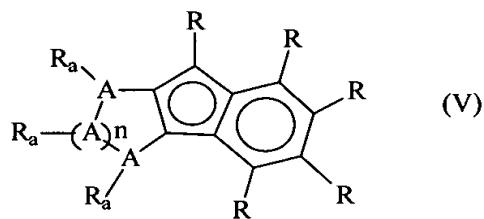
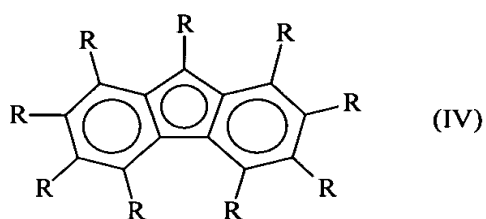
Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The catalyst as claimed in claim 4 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein Z is aluminium.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The catalyst as claimed in claim 1 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein, in the transition metal compound (A) of



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formula (4), the group $(C_5H_{5-c}R^{11})_c$ is represented by any of the following general formulae (I) to (VII):

wherein A represents an element of Group 13, 14, 15 or 16, and plural A's may be the same or different; R represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioalkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an amino group, an amido group, a carboxyl group, or an alkylsilyl or alkylsilylalkyl group having from 3 to 30 carbon atoms, and R's may be the same or different, and may be optionally bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; a represents 0, 1 or 2; and n and m each represent an integer of at least 1.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A method for producing olefin-styrene copolymers, which comprises polymerizing olefins and styrenes in the presence of the copolymerization catalyst of claim 1.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 2 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein, in (C), X is carbon, Y is oxygen and Z is aluminium.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 2 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein the compound (C) is a reaction product of <1> at least one selected from compounds of a general formula, $(R^1)_3-C-OR^3$, R^4-CO-R^5 or $R^6-CO-OR^7$, with <2> a compound of a general formula, $Z(R^2)_m$. (In these formulae, R^1 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 each represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from

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1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioalkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an amino group, an amido group, or a carboxyl group, and R¹, R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ may be the same or different, and R¹, R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ may be optionally bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; Z represents a metal element of Groups 2 to 13; m is an integer, indicating the valency of the metal element Z; and R² represents a hydrocarbon group.)


Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 2 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein at least one of three R's is an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 5 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein at least one of three R's is an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 6 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein at least one of three R's is an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 2 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein three R¹'s are all aromatic hydrocarbon groups each having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 5 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein three R¹'s are all aromatic hydrocarbon groups each having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms.

 Claim 22 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 6 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein three R¹'s are all aromatic hydrocarbon groups each having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 2 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein three R¹'s are all phenyl groups.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 5 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein three R¹'s are all phenyl groups.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 6 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein three R¹'s are all phenyl groups.

Claim 26 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 2 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein R² is an alkyl group having at least 2 carbon atoms.

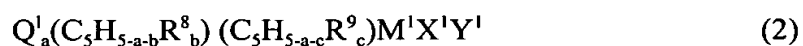
Claim 27 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 5 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein R^2 is an alkyl group having at least 2 carbon atoms.

Claim 28 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 6 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein R^2 is an alkyl group having at least 2 carbon atoms.

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Claim 29 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 5 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein Z is aluminium.

Claim 30 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 6 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein Z is aluminium.

Claim 31 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 2 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein the transition metal compound (A) is represented by any of the following general formulae (2) to (6):



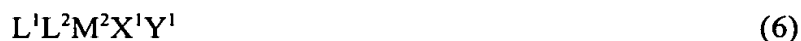
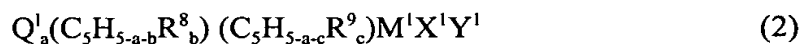
in which Q^1 represents a bonding group that crosslinks the two conjugated five-membered cyclic ligands $(C_5H_{5-a-b}R^8_b)$ and $(C_5H_{5-a-c}R^9_c)$; Q^2 represents a bonding group that crosslinks

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Cont

the conjugated five-membered cyclic ligand ($C_5H_{5-a-d}R^{10}_d$) and the group Z^1 ; R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} and R^{11} each represent a hydrocarbon group, a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, a silicon-containing hydrocarbon group, a phosphorus-containing hydrocarbon group, a nitrogen-containing hydrocarbon group, or a boron-containing hydrocarbon group; and a plurality of these groups, if any, may be the same or different, and may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; a represents 0, 1 or 2; b, c and d each represent an integer of from 0 to 5 when a = 0, or an integer of from 0 to 4 when a = 1, or an integer of from 0 to 3 when a = 2; e is an integer of from 0 to 5; M^1 represents a transition metal of Groups 4 to 6 of the Periodic Table; M^2 represents a transition metal of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table; L^1 and L^2 each represent a coordination-bonding ligand; X^1 , Y^1 , Z^1 , W^1 and U^1 each represent a covalent-bonding or ionic-bonding ligand; and L^1 , L^2 , X^1 , Y^1 , Z^1 , W^1 and U^1 may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure.

Claim 32 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 5 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein the transition metal compound (A) is represented by any of the following general formulae (2) to (6):



in which Q^1 represents a bonding group that crosslinks the two conjugated five-membered cyclic ligands ($C_5H_{5-a-b}R^8_b$) and ($C_5H_{5-a-c}R^9_c$); Q^2 represents a bonding group that crosslinks

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Cont

the conjugated five-membered cyclic ligand ($C_5H_{5-a-d}R^{10}_d$) and the group Z^1 ; R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} and R^{11} each represent a hydrocarbon group, a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, a silicon-containing hydrocarbon group, a phosphorus-containing hydrocarbon group, a nitrogen-containing hydrocarbon group, or a boron-containing hydrocarbon group; and a plurality of these groups, if any, may be the same or different, and may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; a represents 0, 1 or 2; b, c and d each represent an integer of from 0 to 5 when a = 0, or an integer of from 0 to 4 when a = 1, or an integer of from 0 to 3 when a = 2; e is an integer of from 0 to 5; M^1 represents a transition metal of Groups 4 to 6 of the Periodic Table; M^2 represents a transition metal of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table; L^1 and L^2 each represent a coordination-bonding ligand; X^1 , Y^1 , Z^1 , W^1 and U^1 each represent a covalent-bonding or ionic-bonding ligand; and L^1 , L^2 , X^1 , Y^1 , Z^1 , W^1 and U^1 may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure.

Claim 33 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 6 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein the transition metal compound (A) is represented by any of the following general formulae (2) to (6):

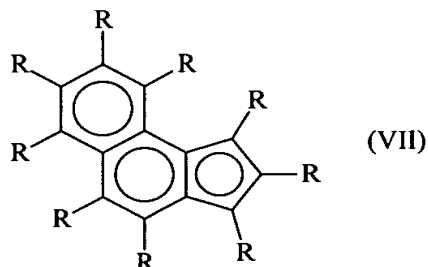
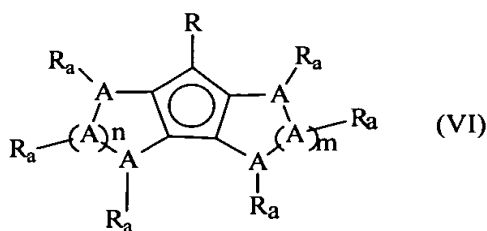
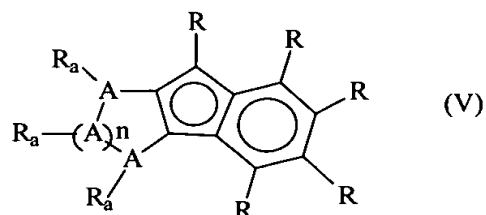
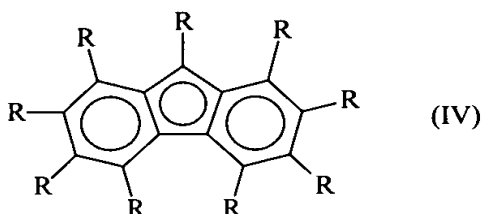
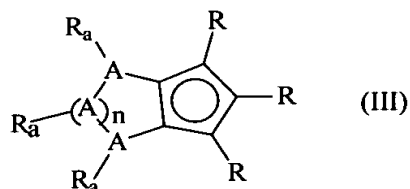
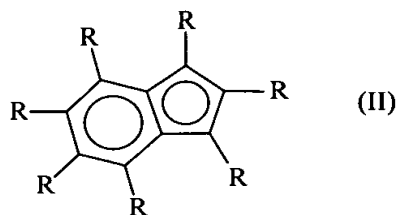
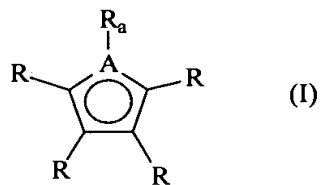


in which Q^1 represents a bonding group that crosslinks the two conjugated five-membered cyclic ligands ($C_5H_{5-a-b}R^8_b$) and ($C_5H_{5-a-c}R^9_c$); Q^2 represents a bonding group that crosslinks

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the conjugated five-membered cyclic ligand ($C_5H_{5-a-d}R^{10}_d$) and the group Z^1 ; R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} and R^{11} each represent a hydrocarbon group, a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, a silicon-containing hydrocarbon group, a phosphorus-containing hydrocarbon group, a nitrogen-containing hydrocarbon group, or a boron-containing hydrocarbon group; and a plurality of these groups, if any, may be the same or different, and may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; a represents 0, 1 or 2; b, c and d each represent an integer of from 0 to 5 when a = 0, or an integer of from 0 to 4 when a = 1, or an integer of from 0 to 3 when a = 2; e is an integer of from 0 to 5; M^1 represents a transition metal of Groups 4 to 6 of the Periodic Table; M^2 represents a transition metal of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table; L^1 and L^2 each represent a coordination-bonding ligand; X^1 , Y^1 , Z^1 , W^1 and U^1 each represent a covalent-bonding or ionic-bonding ligand; and L^1 , L^2 , X^1 , Y^1 , Z^1 , W^1 and U^1 may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure.

Claim 34 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 2 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein, in the transition metal compound (A) of formula (4), the group ($C_5H_{5-e}R^{11}_e$) is represented by any of the following general formulae (I) to (VII):

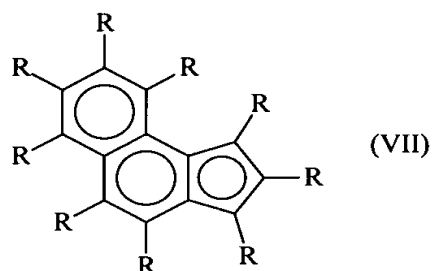
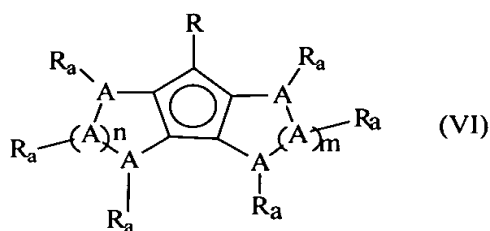
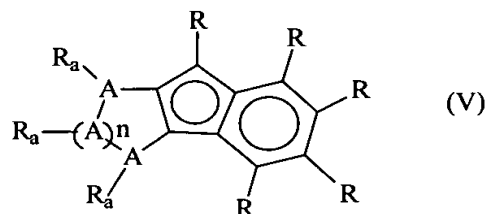
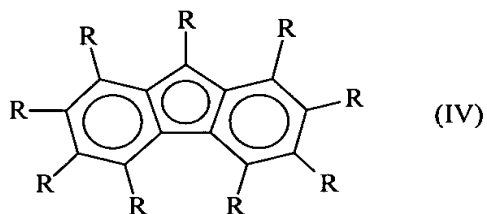
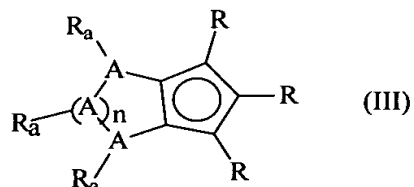
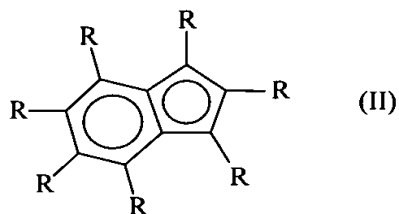
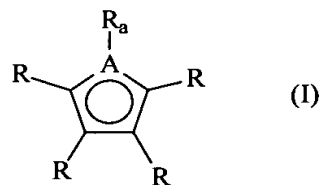


wherein A represents an element of Group 13, 14, 15 or 16, and plural A's may be the same or different; R represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioalkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an amino group, an amido group, a

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carboxyl group, or an alkylsilyl or alkylsilylalkyl group having from 3 to 30 carbon atoms, and R's may be the same or different, and may be optionally bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; a represents 0, 1 or 2; and n and m each represent an integer of at least 1.

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Claim 35 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 5 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein, in the transition metal compound (A) of formula (4), the group $(C_5H_{5-e}R^{11})_e$ is represented by any of the following general formulae (I) to (VII):

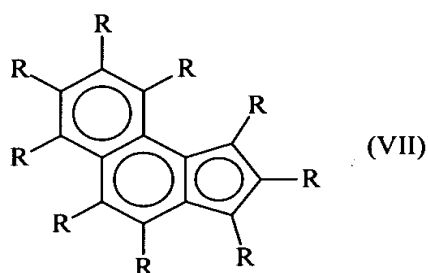
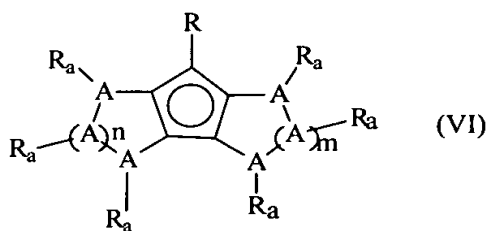
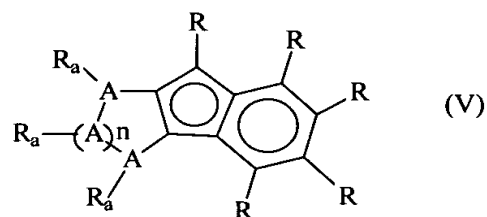
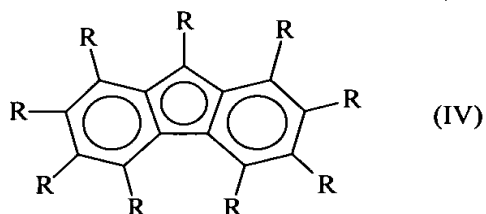
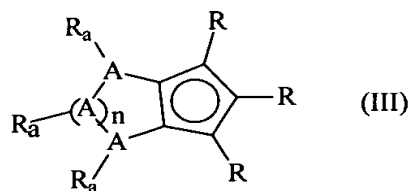
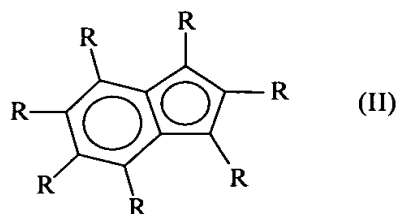
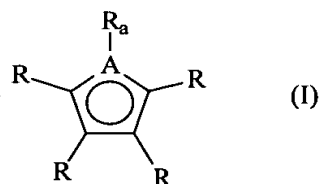


wherein A represents an element of Group 13, 14, 15 or 16, and plural A's may be the same or different; R represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryloxy group having

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B2 from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioalkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an amino group, an amido group, a carboxyl group, or an alkylsilyl or alkylsilylalkyl group having from 3 to 30 carbon atoms, and R's may be the same or different, and may be optionally bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; a represents 0, 1 or 2; and n and m each represent an integer of at least 1.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn): The catalyst as claimed in claim 6 for copolymerization of olefins and styrenes, wherein, in the transition metal compound (A) of formula (4), the group $(C_5H_5-eR^{11})_e$ is represented by any of the following general formulae (I) to (VII):



wherein A represents an element of Group 13, 14, 15 or 16, and plural A's may be the same or different; R represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon group having from 6 to 30

carbon atoms, an alkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioalkoxy group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a thioaryloxy group having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an amino group, an amido group, a carboxyl group, or an alkylsilyl or alkylsilylalkyl group having from 3 to 30 carbon atoms, and R's may be the same or different, and may be optionally bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; a represents 0, 1 or 2; and n and m each represent an integer of at least 1.

B2
Claim 37 (Withdrawn): A method for producing olefin-styrene copolymers, which comprises polymerizing olefins and styrenes in the presence of the copolymerization catalyst of claim 2.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn): A method for producing olefin-styrene copolymers, which comprises polymerizing olefins and styrenes in the presence of the copolymerization catalyst of claim 5.

Claim 39 (Withdrawn): A method for producing olefin-styrene copolymers, which comprises polymerizing olefins and styrenes in the presence of the copolymerization catalyst of claim 6.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of Claim 12 therein, for component (A); as supported in the specification at page 44, line 23 through page 6, line 7, for component (B); and as supported in the specification at page 54, line 9 through page 55, line 21, for component (D). Claim 12 has been cancelled.

The Abstract has been amended by deleting the introductory language, and making it into one sentence.

No new matter has been added by the above amendment. Claims 1, 3, 4, 7-11, 13 and 14 are now active; Claims 2, 5, 6 and 15-39 stand withdrawn from consideration.

ELECTION

Restriction to one of the following inventions has been required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1, 3-4 and 7-14, drawn to A Non Ionic Catalyst for the Polymerization of Olefins and Styrenes, classified in class 502, subclass 103.
- II. Claims 2, 15-17, 20, 23, 26, 31, 34 and 37, drawn to A Catalyst for the Polymerization of Olefins, classified in class 502, subclass 103.
- III. Claims 5, 18, 21, 24, 27, 29, 32, 35 and 38, drawn to An Ionic Catalyst for the Polymerization of Olefins Using Additional Compounds and Alkylating Agent, classified in class 502, subclass 103.
- IV. Claims 6, 19, 22, 25, 28, 30, 36 and 39, drawn to A Catalyst for the Polymerization of Olefins Using Additional Compounds and Alkylating Agent, classified in class 502, 103.

The Examiner further finds that each of above groups I-IV are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising 1 to 6, and has required Applicants to elect a single disclosed species.

Applicants have elected **with traverse** Group I, i.e., Claims 1, 3-4 and 7-14.

However, the Examiner has not identified the particular species. Thus, to the extent the Examiner is actually requiring an election of species, the Office Action is incomplete.

Restriction is only proper if the claims of the restricted groups are either independent or patentably distinct (MPEP §803). The burden of proof is on the Examiner to provide reasons and/or examples, to support any conclusion in regard to patentable distinctness

(MPEP §803). Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement on the ground that the Examiner has not carried the burden of providing any material reasons and/or examples to support the conclusion that the claims of the restricted groups are patentably distinct.

The Examiner has categorized the relationship between the inventions of Groups I-IV as unrelated. The Examiner must show that the various inventions are not disclosed as capable of use together, and have different modes of operation, or different functions, or different effects. MPEP 806.04, 808.01.

While the Examiner has pointed out the differences among the respective Groups, the Examiner has not met the requisite burden. Each Group, as filed, requires component (A) and either component (C), or a combination of components (C1) and (C2). Thus, they are all related.

The Examiner's attention is drawn to the following from MPEP §803:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner **must** examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions. (emphasis added).

Search and examination of the entire application would not appear to impose a serious burden herein. Indeed, all four Groups are classified in the same class and subclass:

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn, and that all claims of the application be examined.